



# U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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## ***News Advisory***

For immediate release  
June 23, 2006

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## **Sensenbrenner Praises Bush Administration's Executive Order Reinforcing Support for Private Property Rights and Opposition to Supreme Court's *Kelo* Decision**

### ***Urges Senate to Approve House Legislation Protecting Property Rights***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On the one-year anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's terrible decision in *Kelo v. New London*, House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.) today praised President George W. Bush for signing an Executive Order reiterating support for private property rights and opposition to the government's using eminent domain for the economic benefit of private parties. As the dissent in the *Kelo* case made clear, under the majority's opinion, "*Any property may now be taken for the benefit of another private party . . . [T]he government now has license to transfer property from those with fewer resources to those with more. The Founders cannot have intended this perverse result.*"

Chairman Sensenbrenner stated, "President Bush should be praised for doing what he can to ensure private property rights are protected by signing this Executive Order. The House of Representatives has acted by overwhelmingly passing by a 376-to-38 margin the bipartisan 'Private Property Rights Protection Act.' Unfortunately, in the year since the horrendous *Kelo* decision, the U.S. Senate has not acted."

**"The Senate's failure to act leaves every homeowner vulnerable to having the government seize their property and give it to a large corporation for a private business use.** It has been 232 days since the House passed this legislation that is vital to protecting the rights of every property owner in America, yet this bill is stuck in the U.S. Senate. That needs to end," added Chairman Sensenbrenner.

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